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ABSTRACT

Pursuant to the special recommendation entitled "Education in the Fight against AIDS" adopted by the International Conference on Education at its 40th session (Geneva, Switzerland, December 1986), this document comprises the Director-General's proposals for a draft Unesco plan of action in this field, prepared during a consultation of national specialists jointly organized by Unesco and the World Health Organization. Paragraph 19 of these proposals is a resolution submitted for adoption by the General Conference, urging member states of the United Nations to participate actively, through educational programs, services, and financial contributions, in prevention and control of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The greater part of the report consists of four annexes. Annex I comprises Unesco's draft plan of action in education for the prevention of AIDS at the regional, national, and international levels, including an outline of general strategies and organizational tasks. Appended to this annex is an outline of a possible plan of action for preventive education on AIDS within the framework of the national plans developed by ministries of health in collaboration with the World Health Organization. The other annexes are: (1) the Fortieth World Health Assembly's resolution calling for a global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS; (2) a similar resolution by the United Nations Economic and Social Council; and (3) the International Conference on Education's resolution promoting education in the fight against AIDS. (TE)

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General Conference
Twenty-fourth Session, Paris 1987

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# REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION ON EDUCATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS), ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION AT ITS FORTIETH SESSION

SUMMARY

Pursuant to the special recommendation entitled 'Education in the fight against AIDS' adopted by the International Conference on Education at its fortieth session, the Director-General submits to the General Conference his proposals for a draft Unesco plan of action in this field, prepared during a consultation of national specialists jointly organized by Unesco and the World Health Organization.

Decision required: paragraph 19.

CG022989

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1. The International Conference on Education (ICE) at its fortieth session, held in Geneva from 2 to 11 December 1986, unanimously adopted a special recommendation entitled 'Education in the fight against AIDS', based on a proposal by the delegation of Venezuela. In this recommendation, the ICE requested the Director-General 'to examine the possibility of preparing as a matter of urgency, and in co-ordination with other competent bodies in the United Nations system, a draft emergency programme of education and information in schools for AIDS prevention, and to submit such proposals as he deems appropriate to the next session of the General Conference of Unesco'. The ICE also expressed the wish 'that this programme may become operational in all Member States as soon as possible and that it may make possible the rapid establishment of co-operation among Member States that already have experience in this matter'.

2. Under cover of circular letter CL/3057 dated 27 April 1987, the Director-General dispatched to Member States the recommendations of the fortieth session of the International Conference on Education concerning the improvement of secondary education and education in the fight against AIDS. In his covering letter, the Director-General drew the attention of Member States to the importance of associating education authorities closely with the National AIDS Prevention Committees set up on the initiative of the World Health Organization.

3. Contacts were immediately established with the World Health Organization (WHO), which was given the mandate of directing and co-ordinating the struggle against AIDS worldwide as part of a global strategy approved in resolution WHA40.26 adopted by the Fortieth World Health Assembly in May 1987. A delegation from Unesco, led by the Deputy Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Information, visted WHO Headquarters in Geneva on 5 March 1987 to consider procedures for co-operation between the two agencies under the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS. This mission bore fruit and WHO and Unesco have been co-operating closely ever since. Unesco's particular experience in education, science, culture and communication and its capacity to rally the large international non-governmental organizations active in the areas of civil rights, education, the family, youth and the media, were appreciated by the organizers of the special programme for the prevention and control of AIDS as a particularly valuable contribution. The three-point agreement on co-operation drawn up as a result of this mission provides for: (i) WHO co-ordination of all information activities relating to the AIDS epidemic and to ways of preventing and combating it; (ii) informing education authorities about the fight against AIDS; and (iii) the joint organization of a consultation of specialists, at Unesco Headquarters at the end of June 1987, in order to draw up a Unesco plan of action in this field.

4. The Director-General also informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the adoption by ICE at its fortieth session, of the recommendation on the fight against AIDS and of the consultations taking place with WHO on the matter. Information has been exchanged with UNICEF and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). Lastly, to enable the Organization to respond fully to the declared concern of Member States, the Director-General set up an interdisciplinary AIDS co-ordinating committee under the authority of the Deputy Director-General. In April 1987, the Director-General also created a post for an associate expert in AIDS prevention, for which nominations are open.

5. In addition, the Secretariat has endeavoured to build up documentation in the form of newspaper articles, booklets and folders on AIDS prevention. For this purpose, it has asked the Regional Offices and the regional advisers on population education to supply it with information on the activities undertaken or envisaged by Member States for AIDS prevention and control, and also the Permanent Delegations of certain Member States that have initiated preventive activities against AIDS, viz. Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Federal Republic of

Germany, Italy, New Zealand and Switzerland. The Secretariat has also been advised by a lecturer from the University of Carabobo (Venezuela), who followed a course at Unesco Headquarters from 4 May to 4 August 1987 and was closely associated with the preparation of the programme of action for the prevention of AIDS.

6. At its 126th session, the Executive Board in decision 4.1 'Examination of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1988-1989 (24 C/5) and recommendations by the Executive Board, Part V', drew 'the attention of the General Conference to the need to co-ordinate Unesco's educational activities with the action which WHO is conducting in its own field of competence for the prevention and elimination of AIDS', and recommended 'that all possible support be given to the initiatives of Member States and to encouraging co-operation among them'.

7. The Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1987, held in Geneva from 23 June to 9 July 1987, confirmed the role of WHO in the prevention of AIDS and adopted resolution 1987/75 entitled 'Prevention and control of AIDS', in which the Council 'draws the attention of the General Assembly to World Health Assembly resolution WHA40.26, by which the World Health Assembly endorsed the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS', [...] 'calls upon all States to take active measures to prevent and control AIDS in line with the Global Strategy'; and 'urges all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, including the Specialized Agencies ..., to support the worldwide struggle against AIDS in close co-operation with the World Health Organization in its direction and co-ordination of the urgent fight against AIDS in conformity with the Global Strategy'.

8. The consultation of national specialists on AIDS prevention, jointly organized by WHO and Unesco on Unesco's initiative, took place at the Organization's Headquarters from 29 June to 1 July 1987. It was attended by specialists from 13 Member States and observers from three non-governmental organizations and two agencies of the United Nations system. Its main objective was to develop a Unesco programme of action. In his opening address, the Deputy Director-General said that the actions to be carried out in the field of education and information should have a twofold objective. 'The first is civic', he said. 'As AIDS is an ambiguous social phenomenon, the threat to human rights and freedoms resulting from certain unjustified attitudes towards those suffering or presumed to be suffering from the illness must be clarified. The second relates to health: each individual, through improved access to information about AIDS, its consequences, modes of transmission and means of prevention, should be able to work out a responsible mode of behaviour for him or herself and for the community. The programme to be prepared by Unesco must pay due attention to both these concerns'.

9. The following items appeared on the agenda of this consultation: (i) the AIDS epidemic throughout the world and WHO's special programme for the prevention and control of AIDS; (ii) action taken at the national level in the fields of education and information for the prevention of AIDS in school; (iii) the educational, cultural and social objectives of a programme of education and information for the prevention of AIDS; (iv) the problems inherent in any action in the field of education; and (v) the Unesco plan of action in education for the prevention of AIDS.

10. At the conclusion of this consultation,[1] the specialists approved the draft programme of action for education, prepared by WHO and Unesco, for the prevention of AIDS. The consultation reaffirmed the need for complementarity between the action of Unesco and that of WHO, with due regard being shown for the respective mandates of the two organizations, and welcomed the resolve expressed by Unesco to rally educational, scientific, cultural and communication circles and to commit

1. The final report can be made available to delegates who request it.

itself to the struggle against AIDS under the aegis of WHO. The specialists also adopted a series of recommendations that reflect the essential points of the working document submitted to them, particularly as regards technical co-operation, national programmes, human rights and the alerting of national authorities.

11. The draft plan of action approved by the national specialists during the above-mentioned consultation is based, on the one hand, on the specific aspects of the situation created by the AIDS pandemic - particularly as regards adolescents - which were discussed at length during the consultation and, on the other, on the experience acquired by the Organization in the course of intersectoral activities aimed at introducing into the curricula of education and into non-formal educational activities interdisiplinary subject-matter relating to other questions linked to the quality of life, particularly with regard to health, population and environment and licit and illicit drug abuse prevention. However, the consultation also showed that AIDS prevention could not be restricted solely to aspects of preventive medicine and public health. The pandemic's various dimensions are throwing all sectors of social and cultural life into disarray and, in some countries at least, are already the focal point of political debates. In this respect, the Director-General feels that the Organization's position should consist, like that of WHO, in doing its utmost to prevent this malady from serving as an excuse for discrimination against certain groups that are at risk or presumed to be so. Hence, the inclusion of an AIDS prevention component in education should provide each society with the opportunity to clarify its values and should be the object of consensus on the part of all those - young people, parents and teachers - who are to be involved in such action and, above all, should receive clearly expressed support from the political authorities.

12. The text of 'Unesco's draft plan of action in education for the prevention of AIDS' appears in Annex I. It comprises activities at the national, regional and international levels within the Organization's fields of competence, which extend and complement those carried out by WHO at those same levels, within the framework of the special programme for the prevention and control of AIDS.

13. Nationally, the Organization will help to inform political authorities and will provide technical support to Member States at their request, should they wish to introduce activities related to AIDS prevention into formal and non-formal education. The Organization's action will concentrate, in close consultation with WHO, on the drawing up, implementation and evaluation of education programmes in conjunction with the plans developed by the National AIDS Committees and funded by bilateral or international agencies; on deciding on strategies and levels of action; on the production of teaching materials; and on the training of teachers and educators. It is proposed to give priority to particularly susceptible age-groups, that is to say pre-adolescents, adolescents and young adults of both sexes, and wherever possible to use existing structures such as educational institutions, the family group and community organizations. One should also guard against considering AIDS prevention as an isolated activity. Efforts should rather be made to incorporate it progressively into the curricula of education and into out-of-school activities in such a way as to avoid overloading the curricula and to reduce the burden of additional costs. To achieve this, use could be made of existing curricula and activities such as population and health education curricula, ethical education curricula and educational activities for young people outside the traditional education systems.

14. The proposed regional activities will be aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the Organization's support for national programmes, making it more relevant to the socio-cultural environment. Such activities will therefore be decentralized (except for the Europe region) and carried out by the units away from Headquarters whose resources will, where necessary, be increased under regional projects

financed from extra-budgetary sources. At regional level, the Organization will endeavour, in liaison with the international non-governmental organizations engaged in AIDS prevention, to encourage the establishment of networks of co-operation among institutions, programmes and projects for exchanging and pooling the experience gained; to supply data on strategies, methods and achievements with regard to AIDS prevention in education; to facilitate the production, exchange and circulation of educational material, and to set up training workshops for teachers and educators.

15. At the international level, Unesco and WHO will strengthen their co-operation in all information and education activities relating to the AIDS epidemic and ways of preventing and combating it, in order to alert educational authorities to the campaign against AIDS, to prepare and conduct pilot programmes and assess what has been achieved worldwide in order to determine which patterns of intervention are most effective, particularly so as to encourage a change in attitudes and behaviour. The Organization will do all it can to encourage and support the development of training activities undertaken by specialized institutions or international non-governmental organizations and to promote joint consultation with the non-governmental organizations concerned with educational activities for the prevention of AIDS, particularly the organizations active in the fields of civil rights, health education, population education, physical education and sport, the media, youth, women, the family and teachers' associations. Lastly, resources permitting, it is proposed to set up a documentation centre on the strategies, methods and materials used in education and literacy teaching programmes to combat AIDS and on the issues that arise in the field of human rights where AIDS is concerned.

16. In the Draft Programme and Budget for 1988-1989, the Director-General proposed (para. 04214, action 4.4) a possible activity at a cost of $60,000 which could provide a basis in the regular programme for the plan of action, the financing of which will come from extra-budgetary resources within the framework of national, regional and international projects and will be the subject of consultations with multilateral or bilateral funding agencies and with WHO in the context of its Special Programme on AIDS. The Director-General also intends to open new associate expert posts for recruitment as the activities develop.

17. The Director-General is very conscious of the urgent need, stressed by the International Conference on Education, to provide educational authorities and educators in Member States with information and suggestions on the contribution that education should make to AIDS prevention. He therefore intends first of all to give wide circulation to the final report of the consultation of national specialists on AIDS prevention, organized jointly by WHO and Unesco, also dispatching it to specialized institutions and educational journals in Member States and to non-governmental organizations. With the support of extra-budgetary resources, the Secretariat is already preparing suggestions regarding methods for activities to be undertaken nationally, as well as intervention models that could be rapidly circulated to educational authorities and by means of the Organization's periodical newsletters and publications. There are also plans to organize in the near future a meeting of the relevant non-governmental organizations about their participation in implementing the plan of action.

18. Health and education authorities throughout the world are faced with a Herculean task which is growing daily in urgency and scope. No State can ignore the human, social and moral issues raised by AIDS, nor disregard its economic repercussions. One of the main weapons against the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome is still education. Education for AIDS prevention is not, however, a simple matter of health information. Its moral and civic implications for individuals and societies are diverse and deep-seated. What is called for, in fact, is education for 'new' life-styles and what is needed is the establishment of a society that is aware of

the enormity of the AIDS threat. The aim of the plan of action outlined above is to enable the Organization to provide support, within its fields of competence, to the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS, undertaken under the aegis of WHO, as requested in resolution 1987/75 of the Economic and Social Council.

19. Should the General Conference agree with the above remarks concerning the development of a Unesco programme for AIDS prevention through education, and the proposals contained in 'Unesco's Plan of Action in Education for the Prevention of AIDS', it may wish to adopt a resolution worded as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling the special recommendation entitled 'Education in the fight against AIDS' adopted by the International Conference on Education at its fortieth session,

Recalling decision 4.1, Part V, in which the Executive Board, at its 126th session, drew the attention of the General Conference to the need to co-ordinate Unesco's educational activities with the action which the World Health Organization is conducting in its own field of competence for the prevention and elimination of AIDS,

Referring to resolution WHA40.26 by which the World Health Assembly, at its fortieth session, in May 1987, approved the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS, and urged Member States to take effective educational and preventive measures for the control and elimination of AIDS,

Considering resolution 1987/75 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987, in which the Council urges all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system 'to support the worldwide struggle against AIDS in close co-operation with the World Health Organization in its direction and co-ordination of the fight against AIDS and in conformity with the Global Strategy',

Aware that the AIDS pandemic has created throughout the world an emergency situation that calls for international action to control this malady to be taken as quickly as possible on a world scale,

Convinced that the transmission of AIDS can be prevented and that education must constitute an essential part of the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS,

Considering that educational circles in many countries are not equipped for this task,

Having examined the report of the Director-General on the implementation of the special recommendation adopted by the International Conference on Education at its fortieth session (document 24 C/33),

Noting with satisfaction the fruitful co-operation instituted between Unesco and the World Health Organization,

Congratulates the Director-General on the measures he has taken so far;

Approves the proposals relating to 'Unesco's Plan of Action in Education for the Prevention of AIDS', as part of the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS, which are annexed to document 24 C/33;

Authorizes the Director-General to undertaken, under the regular programme, the activities envisaged in paragraph 04214, action 4.4, of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1988-1989, to be financed (to be decided by the Conference):

by funds from the reserve for draft resolutions,

by the abolition or reduction of the following activities:

... .....

or

by voting an additional appropriation of $60,000;

Requests the Director-General to accord particular attention when these activities are being implemented to strengthening co-ordination with the other organizations of the United Nations system within the framework of the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS, drawn up by the World Health Organization;

Invites the Director-General, in addition, to seek extra-budgetary resources for the rapid implementation of the plan of action, particularly through co-operation with the World Health Organization and other multilateral and bilateral funding sources;

Urges Member States to participate actively, through educational programmes and through activities for young people, in the prevention of this new disease and to ensure that educational authorities play a part in the National AIDS Committees set up under the auspices of the public health authorities;

Invites Member States to make generous financial contributions to educational activities for the prevention and control of AIDS and to provide the Organization with contributions in the form of services so as to enable it to carry out its action against AIDS with the requisite effectiveness.

ANNEX I

# UNESCO'S DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION IN EDUCATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF AIDS

UNESCO'S DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION IN EDUCATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF AIDS

1. The AIDS pandemic is an international health problem of extraordinary scope and urgency. As a complex changing phenomenon that ignores geographic boundaries, AIDS demands the highest degree of international co-operation and pragmatic co-ordination among governmental, non-governmental and multilateral bodies, with each contributing its particular expertise. Through the fortieth World Health Assembly in its resolution WHA 40.26, the international community endorsed the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS. The June 1987 meeting of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, in its resolution 'urges all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, including the Specialized Agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies and non-governmental and voluntary organizations, to support the worldwide struggle against AIDS in close co-operation with the World Health Organization in its direction and co-ordination of the urgent fight against AIDS and in conformity with the Global Strategy'.

2. The Unesco plan of action has been developed as an integral part of the WHO Global Strategy. This plan will be incorporated as part of Unesco's existing formal and non-formal education activities. Within this context, the specific objectives of Unesco's plan of action are to devise, initiate, implement, monitor and evaluate AIDS preventive programmes within education systems and literacy programmes and to render such other technical assistance within its general competence as may be called for by WHO and/or for by Member States at national, regional and international levels.

3. The area of intervention of the AIDS prevention educational programme is arranged according to a twofold approach. One is in terms of organizational criteria, that is, considering action as pertaining to the formal educational system, and activities which fall within the area of non-formal education; the other is perceived in terms of the level in which actions are implemented, i.e. at national, regional or international levels.

4. Under the leadership of WHO and in the framework of the Global Strategy, Unesco's tasks will be set out as follows:

At the national level

(a) to contribute to institutionalizing content and methodology related to AIDS and its prevention within formal educational systems' (upper primary, secondary and tertiary) existing curricula and extra-curricula programmes;

(b) to promote the incorporation of components relating to AIDS and its prevention in all appropriate non-formal programmes implemented by Unesco addressed to both young and adult audiences and oriented towards social and economic well-being;

At the regional level

(a) to create the organizational capacities that will facilitate assistance to national programmes in the form of technical advice, research and evaluation;

(b) to provide facilities and capacities which would promote production and dissemination of materials;

(c) to encourage co-operation as well as the sharing of experiences, in particular with regard to educational strategies;

At the international level

(a) to develop strategies and models within education systems and literacy programmes for prevention of HIV infection;

(b) to orient, support and harmonize national and regional educational and literacy activities with regard to AIDS;

(c) to promote the training and exchange of personnel working in AIDS prevention in education systems; and

(d) to establish a documentation centre on educational activities with regard to AIDS.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ORGANIZATION

5. General strategies developed by Unesco's preventive education programme shall be considered as a component of the WHO Global Strategy. WHO is requesting at the country level, a clear political commitment to the national AIDS programme, the establishment of a national AIDS committee, and has laid down guidelines to list priority needs. In the absence of vaccine or curative measures, prevention education emerges as the main instrument available to limit the expansion of the disease and to promote safer behavioural practices. The National AIDS Committee (NAC) should, therefore, include representatives from formal and non-formal sectors of eduction and relevant government ministries. Consequently, Unesco will assist Member States in the development of preventive education programmes, both in the formal and in the non-formal setting.

6. The organizational tasks involved in launching a national educational programme would appear to be:

(i) prompt and early identification of educational personnel with interest and technical expertise in preventive education who might take leading roles in activities proposed by NAC for education systems and literacy programmes. Assistance of Unesco National Commissions, Unesco advisers in the Field and Regional Office personnel shall be made available. A roster of nationals involved in relevant Unesco projects where these exist, or national counterpart staff working with Unesco advisers both within and outside formal educational systems shall be drawn up, provided to NAC, maintained at Headquarters and updated regularly;

(ii) appointment of a national AIDS preventive education officer within appropriate educational institutions. Under the leadership of NAC, this officer may co-ordinate an 'Educational Task Force' with representatives of both formal and non-formal education, service units concerned with school educational mass media, school broadcasting and mobile audiovisual units.

7. This Educational Task Force may, under the direction of NAC, be responsible for the planning and implementation of that component of a national action plan for AIDS prevention dealing with formal and non-formal education. The relevance of each and/or all these suggested activities must be assessed in relation to the national,

social, cultural, economic and political context, as well as with regard to the specificities of the educational system in terms of finance, structure, curriculum and staff.

8. A typical Unesco plan of action at the national level could include the following ten activities, and which are further elaborated in the appendix to this annex:

(i) organization of national symposia to inform and involve ministers of education and administrative decision-makers as well as formal and non-formal education leaders;

(ii) participation in research activities in the education sector to establish prevailing levels of knowledge, attitudes and values regarding AIDS for specific education target groups;

(iii) organization of intensive courses for mobile teams of educators;

(iv) analysing existing education institutional and programmes structures (curricula) to establish methods of content development and integration;

(v) development, experimentation, production and dissemination of supplementary instructional materials;

(vi) establishing a national resource and documentation centre for the education system, if one does not already exist;

(vii) organization of strategies at the level of education institutions;

(viii) pre-service and in-service teacher training to incorporate AIDS preventive education within educational curricula and systems;

(ix) monitoring and evaluating programme efficiency and effectiveness;

(x) disseminating results to capitalize upon experience gained.

9. In addition to general advice on programming such national plans upon request Unesco could provide technical expertise for each of these ten components. It is none the less clear that decisions concerning each of the above action, or contents, levels and modalities of introduction, etc., remain national decisions.

10. Whilst each component has been expressed in standard terms, there is an overall need to test innovative development strategies and low-cost alternatives in order to establish which intervention models generate the best gains in knowledge, the most positive change in values, attitudes and outcomes in potential and current behaviour.

11. That there will be immense differences in national education programmes should be borne in mind. In many Member States the problem of infection and the significance of high risk target groups will determine content messages. In others different patterns of sexual behaviour, family organization, cultural traditions, etc., will call for different approaches. Socio-economic development and the extent of resources available to health and education activities will vary significantly. Some Member States will be in a position to provide the human and material resources required for an AIDS preventive programme more readily than others. Others will require considerable administrative, technical, professional, financial and infrastructural resources to initiate and sustain educational efforts.

12. Assistance could also be provided to government authorities in the formulation of project documents in support of national preventive programmes in the education systems to be submitted for funding to the relevant bilateral or international organization as appropriate. But in comparison to what may generally pertain, national action plans for AIDS preventive education should require limited financial inputs across the board, as many activities can be infused in already existing schemes of action.

At the regional level

13. Within the framework of the objectives set up in paragraph 4 above, the purpose of a regional programme is to provide Unesco support to national action. The regional programme will be developed along the guidelines provided by the WHO Headquarters in Geneva and executed by the Unesco Regional Office. The main components of the regional programme are given below.

Technical assistance and backstopping

14. The services of Unesco regional advisers (in information, education, social sciences, population and, if needed, special AIDS preventive education regional advisers) and regional Unesco-UNICEF co-operative programme advisers shall be made available upon request to national AIDS preventive education programmes within Member States. These advisers shall work in close collaboration with NAC. They will render technical assistance to field programmes, assisting planning and co-ordinating AIDS related educational activities. In some, but not all instances, Unesco Regional Offices have personnel or units specialized in educational and social research and educational measurement and evaluation. Where such facilities exist, their advice and services could be made available to National AIDS Committees and Unesco-assisted national AIDS prevention education programmes as well as to related and associated programmes.

Production, clearing and dissemination of materials

15. Our knowledge of the epidemiology of AIDS is quickly progressing and evolving. As instructional materials will need to respond rapidly to this changing body of knowledge, special attention should be given to the ongoing liaison between Unesco Headquarters and WHO/SPA as regards the assessment of the technical content of these materials and to the setting up of mechanisms for rapid dissemination of up-to-date information.

16. Activities should, therefore, be launched for limited, low-cost printing and publication of a digest of such materials for distribution to national AIDS preventive education projects and to other regional units. Samples should be made available in the form of case-studies, leaflets, posters, slide-tapes, audiovisual programmes, etc. Materials developed nationally, regionally or internationally in support of educational programmes with either AIDS related content or indicating alternative strategies for programme development in this field, should be collected and collated at regional level. The Regional Offices will be responsible for dissemination of materials and reports with a particular regional specificity.

Co-operation and sharing of experience

17. At regular intervals and occasionally on an ad hoc basis, regional meetings on preventive education should be convened: expert meetings to launch national education programmes, specialist meetings on curriculum development, within education systems and literacy programmes; monitoring and evaluating programme efficiency and effectiveness. Also action will be implemented towards the setting up of relevant

networks, to cater for the growing demand for sharing experiences, debating on strategies, reviewing results and integrating and consolidating programmes, as well as setting up training schemes through exchange of personnel, attachments, internships, workshops, seminars and symposia for national programmes staff.

18. As a sponsoring organization, Unesco should seek financial support for the provision of necessary facilities in assisting national staff. Unesco will then have to discuss with other agencies on the financial implications in terms of staff and cost of these activities, and in all likelihood come to such regional arrangements as exist with UNICEF/Unesco co-operation or the UNFPA funded regional programmes at the Unesco Regional Offices.

At the international level

19. An interdisciplinary AIDS co-ordinating committee has been established within Unesco, under the authority of the Deputy Director-General, to facilitate liaison and to ensure co-operation between all units concerned. Care has been taken to draw representation from a wide spectrum of expertise within Unesco: from the social sciences (including human rights, social psychology and cultural anthropology), the information sciences (including educational materials development, small and mass media dissemination techniques), as well as experts in education and communication planning and programming in areas relating to improvement of the quality of life. This committee has been designated as the focal point to liaise with WHO, other co-operating agencies and non-governmental organizations.

20. The regular programme and budget foresees, subject to the approval of the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session, that US $60,000 will be allotted to this activity in order to contribute to the launching of the Unesco AIDS programme. Likewise, in April 1987 the Director-General created an associate expert post in order to assist in the implementation of the Unesco plan of action.

21. At the international level, the Organization will co-operate with WHO in supporting the following activities as a matter of urgency:

(i) to develop and implement in-house training programmes for staff and eventual consultants in order to enhance assistance under this plan of action to Member States. This could, among other approaches, involve in-service training of Unesco staff through participation in WHO missions for planning/formulation of national education plans;

(ii) to identify existing networks and mechanisms (in both Unesco and WHO) for exchange of technical and educational material, to develop a roster of consultants and Unesco staff with expertise in educational planning and evaluation, and to identify key Unesco meetings for WHO participation;

(iii) to conduct an inventory and to proceed to a critical assessment of existing educational experiences, with emphasis on methodology, content, management and cost;

(iv) to organize jointly with the WHO a meeting of non-governmental organizations to elicit their involvement with education activities and to elaborate an inventory of possible contributions;

(v) to organize, in two to four countries, pilot educational projects with a national and/or regional character, one focusing on the formal and another on the non-formal sector, in order to design possible models of intervention within education systems and literacy programmes.

22. Further programme actions and activities are as follows:

(i) drafting and publishing of works on educational strategy development and model applicability within this field, together with experimental case-studies to illustrate educational issues and problems pertaining to AIDS preventive education;

(ii) establishing an AIDS documentation and clearing-house service for educational material in schools for developed and developing countries with primary responsibility for meeting requests from and distributing material to developing countries;

(iii) introducing jointly with WHO the dimension of AIDS preventive education into international symposia related to curriculum development and teacher training with particular attention to be given to its role and function and interaction with other educational structures and its implications for educational planning and content development;

(iv) establishing of an international exchange programme whereby scholars and professional educators from Member States seeking to initiate an AIDS preventive education programme might benefit from exposure to other well-established and tested programmes in other countries;

(v) identifying and providing, jointly with WHO, technical support to internationally focused training centres seeking to provide preventive education courses to professionals and particularly those in AIDS preventive education.

Also at the international level, Unesco, jointly with WHO and concerned communications agencies will investigate the viability of presenting a global review of progress in AIDS preventive education via satellite/video communications.

23. In order to implement the above plan of action, Unesco will use the international co-operation mechanisms, established by WHO for the AIDS programme.

## APPENDIX

### OUTLINE OF A POSSIBLE PLAN OF ACTION FOR PREVENTIVE EDUCATION ON AIDS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL PLANS DEVELOPED BY MINISTRIES OF HEALTH IN COLLABORATION WITH WHO

This appendix develops paragraph 8 of Annex I

1. The organization of a national symposium for political and administrative decision-making at all levels of the formal education system, together with those involved in youth and adult education activities, is a comparatively straightforward task. The aim is to make personnel aware of the problems posed by AIDS, to foster interaction with personnel from the National AIDS Committee to revise and modify a national plan of action in line with local needs and contexts, and to ensure that the mechanisms for initiation and implementation of the plan are in place. Within the framework of such a symposium, there is a role for computer simulation of the impact of the growth of AIDS, exposure to the reality of the disease, workshop activities to model interventions, and work on practical implementation strategies.

2. Participation in research on the definition of national needs linked to the prevention of AIDS.

(a) Definition of questions which are basic to the development of educational strategies and interventions such as distribution of AIDS and current epidemiologic information on magnitude and distribution of HIV infection.

(b) Knowledge and perceptions, among different groups, about AIDS and HIV transmission.

(c) Patterns of sexual behaviour and attitudes to sexuality.

(d) Operations research issues relating to how best to channel information and education to different groups.

This should not be interpreted as an invitation to institute the traditional and exhaustive type of study. What is required are sample group studies based, for example, on focused discussion techniques and the rapid establishment of a target group profile which would comparatively speedily provide insight into the extent and level of AIDS-related knowledge, attitudes and values. The task is to establish a simple socio-cultural framework within which educators could devise more relevant content messages, materials and modes of communication.

3. The organization of crash courses.

A most urgent requirement is to train a central core of professional motivators or facilitators in on-the-job contexts who will assist institutional and field programme staff in the development of educationally sound packages linked to other content and based on innovative methodologies that can be tested in a variety of educational settings.

A national mobile training team should have a promotional function, to awaken institutional administrators (college principals, course directors, specialist teachers, heads of departments, etc.) to the need for an AIDS preventive education component in curricula. Such activities should also involve community leaders,

parents and professional staff in gaining support in this domain. The team should be technically capable of initiating and implementing the following component activities.

4. Within formal training institutions (universities, teacher-training colleges, agricultural and industrial training institutes, polytechnics, mass communication institutes, etc.) there will be two major tasks:

to provide personnel with assistance in curriculum analysis with a view to bringing to light the most appropriate and promising areas for content integration (this task will need to be repeated for curriculum specialists at primary and secondary levels);

to help in deciding what this content might include and the most appropriate ways of dealing with it in methodological terms.

The usual problems (some of which will be discussed in the following section) can be expected to arise. However, it is important to remember that, at this level of institutional intervention, there are opportunities within orientation activities for the dissemination of materials relating to AIDS prevention, for the creation of discussion groups or panels. In liberal arts courses dealing with social issues there will be opportunities for direct intervention, as will also be the case with extra-curricular activities (i.e. clubs and societies). Whilst such activities should not be regarded as substitutes for the integration of AIDS-related content into social science curricula on a permanent institutionalized basis, they are, nevertheless, sound starting-points to desensitize the AIDS issue.

Two types of training institute merit special attention. Within teacher training colleges for both primary and secondary levels, AIDS-prevention content merits a repetitive, yet differential approach, via integration into disciplines such as health education, biology (human sexuality) and social studies. It is, however, important that difficulties in course specialization be overcome and, in this respect, attention needs to be paid to the core curriculum (i.e. in courses dealing with sociology of education or educational psychology). It is vital that those teacher-training colleges with in-service as well as pre-service functions ensure that AIDS-related content receives priority attention in all further teacher training programmes.

In institutions with a mass outreach programme (e.g. agricultural colleges training extension workers) or where the institution trains personnel for the mass media, any AIDS-prevention programme needs to focus even more sharply on the sociology and psychology of human motivation, and the development of message content in modes that are both convincing and related to the particular society or culture. It is fundamental that content be matched with simple communication techniques that will ensure effective dissemination of messages.

Educational mobile teams should be aware of, and, when appropriate, involved in, WHO training programmes for national health workers and health educators. Exchange of training experience, development of materials and strategies are of obvious benefit to all. Co-ordination through the National AIDS Committee and its IEC subgroup is essential.

5. The development of materials that will supplement, augment and reinforce instruction and the teaching learning process within educational systems and in field programmes, is a basic necessity. In dealing with this matter, the AIDS IEC

subgroup must recognize the educator's special requirements. The materials in question must be tailored to the needs of very specific learning audiences (e.g. children at the upper primary level, adult literacy classes). In turn, educators must recognize that the standard, traditional approach to learning materials, in the form of teachers' manuals, textbooks, etc., is inappropriate in an emergency intervention programme. Attention should be paid to the prompt development and experimentation of flip-charts, posters, pamphlets, single-page worksheets, summaries and the use of mass communication (educational broadcasting). The objective should be the production and testing of simple low-cost materials with a high visual content and oriented towards generating learner participation. Teachers and instructors will require elementary instructional materials on methodology (initiating discussion, handling sensitive issues or questions, developing learner constructed visual aids).

Educational media specialists co-opted by the mobile team should be engaged to assist NAC and its IEC subgroup to develop audio and visual materials (posters, films, filmstrips, radio cassetts and video) to be disseminated to the target audiences with which the educators are involved. As these materials are expensive to produce, relevance must be ensured for cost-effectiveness.

6. At the level of institutions: A school co-ordinator should be appointed to take charge of animating the prevention team which will be composed not only of teachers directly concerned (biology) but also physical education and sports teachers, health and social workers and volunteers.

This is simply a theoretical diagram and is not a prejudgement of its existence or not within a country.

It is, however, important that responsible people, who accept to follow specific training and apt to develop strategies and evaluate the results be made available to the co-ordinator, whose own role within the institution will be:

to draft, in co-operation with the educational personnel within the school and school health workers, an overall prevention programme;

to distribute the work;

to intervene if necessary, in collaboration with the school team, in introducing specific programmes;

to be a resource person for his colleagues, providing technical information on the disease;

to liaise with non-educational health services;

co-ordinate evaluation and undertake any necessary revision.

7. Pre-service teacher training has already been mentioned. Attention now needs to be focused on in-service teachers and educational personnel, their orientation and training in AIDS preventive education.

The content of such training, defined at the national level, should fall under four main headings:

sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS (biology);

psychological aspects of sex education;

specific problems posed by AIDS: mortality, what to tell seropositive children; how to avoid trauma;

use of modern teaching techniques:

dual relationships;
active listening;
group dynamics;
role playing.

Traditional practice must be critically assessed because most in-service training programmes are clostly and considerable time elapses before any national coverage is obtained. Attention must, therefore, be paid to strategies (to be tested) which might, at one extreme, seek to provide intensive training for provincial or district level 'nominated' school counsellors and, at the other, develop a simple kit of materials which would, in itself, be a self-learning and training exercise. It is no denigration of the AIDS preventive education programme to recognize that preventive messages are not very complex and neither are the skills involved in demystifying knowledge, establishing what is clearly known, and assisting learners to clarify the attitudes and values involved. Ability to express the preventive message with conviction, yet positively, in a manner which does not destroy healthy attitudes and values is, however, required. In other words, training programmes would not seem to need a massive input, nor indeed total input at one and the same time. As knowledge of AIDS expands, there will be a need to disseminate, update and revise training content.

8. The monitoring and evaluation of AIDS preventive education programmes must be rigorous, bearing in mind that such processes do have considerable limitations. For instance, programme impact analysis in assessing cause and effect is virtually impossible. Many audiences within the educational system will be subject to exposure of adult campaigns. Considerable time will elapse before the benefits of an in-school programme can be assessed in behavioural outcome terms. None of this should, however, prevent immediate formative and summative monitoring and evaluation. Monitoring of inputs through, for example, registration of numbers of teachers and students, instructors and learners involved, materials disseminated and the results of pre- and post-test evaluations could be maintained in a central register. Case-studies of programmes compared with earlier baseline profiles can be prepared. There can also be simple opinion polling and the use of focused group discussions as a readily and quickly derived means of establishing knowledge, attitude and behavioural intent assessments. In non-formal contexts with youth and adult audiences, behavioural outcomes can be assessed by using the evaluation procedures adopted by the National AIDS Committee, involving feedback from inputs that have generated change.

In conjunction with the national programme (WHO/AIDS/SPA/86.4 22.10) in school and university milieux, evaluation will also at:

observing attitudes and levels of awareness;

monitoring progress and evaluating behavioural change;

monitoring trends in levels of HIV infection;

re-evaluating educational strategies based on what is known at a given point in time.

9. Any national educational plan of action must of necessity be experimental and trial and error must be processes to be encouraged. As evaluation proceeds it will become increasingly necessary to analyse apparent successes and failures. Both need to be recorded; frequently as much can be learned from the latter as from the former. Reports at three-month and six-month intervals should be compiled by a mobile team and programme staff and fed back to the National Committee, to Unesco and to WHO for consideration as to regional or international dissemination.

# ANNEX II

## RESOLUTION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

## FORTIETH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA40.26

15 May 1987

Agenda item 18.2 - Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS

The Fortieth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on WHO's Special Programme on AIDS,(1)

Deeply concerned that this disease caused by one or more naturally occurring retroviruses of undetermined geographical origin has assumed pandemic proportions affecting all regions of the world and represents a threat to the attainment of health for all,

Realizing that the transmission of AIDS can be prevented, that information is an essential element in all control of AIDS, and that every individual has a responsibility,

Reiterating that information and education on the modes of transmission as well as the assurance and use of safe blood and blood products, and sterile practices in invasive procedures, are still the only measures available that can limit the further spread of AIDS,

Convinced of the crucial importance of countries closely integrating their programme for the prevention and control of AIDS within their health systems based on primary health care,

Impressed by the accelerated response of WHO to this emergency during the past year,

Noting with satisfaction that WHO has invested funds from its regular 1986-1987 budget to deal with this serious public health problem despite current financial constraints,

Grateful to all those whose generous extra-budgetary contributions have made it possible to give the required momentum to WHO's efforts to combat AIDS,

Stressing the need for substantial additional voluntary contributions to permit WHO to fulfil its international directing and co-ordinating role in this field,

Emphasizing that all contributing countries are protecting the health of their own people no less than that of others, since AIDS knows no geographical boundaries,

(1) A40/5.

Realizing that the worldwide emergency created by AIDS will require urgent and vigorous globally directed action in the development of epidemiological surveillance, the intensification of research in prevention, control, diagnosis and treatment including social science research, the training of national health workers and other relevant areas of prevention, control and research,

Recognizing that due to the relatively long incubation period of the virus and the large number of people already infected with it, the worldwide number of AIDS cases will continue to rise in the next few years irrespective of public health strategies to prevent viral transmission,

1. Confirms that WHO should continue to fulfil its role of directing and co-ordinating the global, urgent and energetic fight against AIDS;

2. Endorses the establishment of a Special Programme on AIDS and stresses its high priority;

3. Further endorses the global strategy and programme structure prepared by WHO to combat AIDS;

4. Urges Member States:

   (1) to establish or strengthen effective programmes to combat AIDS in line with the above-mentioned global strategy and recommendations of the Third Meeting of Participating Parties;(1) and to ensure that control is integrated into the existing system based on primary health care, and is based on effective educational and preventive measures to enable each person to protect himself/herself from the disease;

   (2) to co-operate fully with one another in facing this worldwide emergency within the context of the policy of technical co-operation among countries through the adoption of compatible programmes and transfer of appropriate technology;

   (3) to share in full openness with WHO and with other Member States all relevant and reliable information on AIDS and related infections;

5. Urges Member States to make voluntary contributions in cash and kind for the implementation of the global strategy;

6. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral agencies, as well as non-governmental and voluntary organizations, to support the worldwide struggle against AIDS in conformity with WHO's global strategy;

7. Requests the regional committees:

   (1) to keep the situation concerning AIDS in the regions under constant review;

   (2) to ensure that regional resources to combat AIDS are used in conformity with the global AIDS strategy; and

   (3) to report annually to the Director-General on the situation in the region;

(1) A40/INF.DOC./8.

8. Requests the Executive Board to review yearly until further notice the global epidemiological situation concerning AIDS and progress in implementing WHO's global strategy to combat it;

9. Requests the Director-General:

(1) to ensure that the global strategy to combat AIDS is effectively implemented by all levels of the Organization - country, regional and global - with the aim of containing, progressively reducing and eventually stopping the spread of the infection;

(2) to assert WHO's international directing and co-ordinating role in support of national AIDS programmes;

(3) to support national AIDS prevention and control programmes in due balance with other health programmes by ensuring adequate co-ordination and co-operation of the governments concerned, WHO and other external partners;

(4) to continue to develop effective strategies to prevent the transmission of AIDS, including social and behavioural research and the advocacy of the role of women in preventing transmission;

(5) to reinforce the Organization's support to Member States in designing or strengthening, implementing, monitoring and evaluating national programmes for AIDS prevention and control;

(6) to issue guidance on the prevention and control of AIDS on a continuing basis as new information comes to light and the Special Programme evolves;

(7) to continue to seek extra-budgetary funds to implement the global AIDS strategy;

(8) to establish a Special Account for AIDS in the Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion; and

(9) to report on the matter to the Executive Board and to the World Health Assembly annually.

Twelfth plenary meeting, 15 May 1987
A40/VR/12

ANNEX III

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr. Limited

E/1987/L.35/Rev.1
3 July 1987
Original: English

Adopted unanimously 8.7.87

Second regular session of 1987
Geneva, 23 June-9 July 1987
Agenda item 15

Resolution 1987/75

# INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

## Resolution proposed by the President of the Council

## Prevention and control of AIDS

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered World Health Assembly resolution WHA40.26 of 15 May 1987 on the prevention and control of AIDS,

Deeply concerned to learn that this disease has assumed pandemic proportions affecting all regions and that it represents a serious threat to the attainment of health for all by the year 2000 and to social and economic development in general,

Considering that the international community should do the utmost to prevent the further spread of AIDS, bearing in mind that information is an essential element in all control of AIDS and that every individual has a responsibility,

Realizing that the worldwide emergency created by AIDS will require urgent and vigorous globally directed action in prevention, control and research,

1. Draws the attention of the General Assembly to World Health Assembly resolution WHA40.26, by which the World Health Assembly endorsed the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS, prepared by the World Health Organization;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the World Health Organization for taking the lead in mobilizing the international community to combat the disease;

3. Calls upon all States to take active measures to prevent and control AIDS in line with the Global Strategy;

4. Urges all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, including the Specialized Agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies and non-governmental and voluntary organizations, to support the worldwide struggle against AIDS in close co-operation with the World Health Organization in its direction and co-ordination of the urgent fight against AIDS and in conformity with the Global Strategy.

GE.87-62418/9236E

ANNEX IV

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION

Fortieth session

Geneva, 2-11 December 1986

EDUCATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST AIDS

The International Conference on Education,

Recognizing that the world is faced with a problem of which the full gravity has become apparent only since the Unesco Secretariat sent the preliminary draft of Recommendation No. 75 concerning 'the improvement of secondary education: object, structures, content and methods' to Member States, namely the AIDS pandemic as the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) recently called it,

Noting that many governments and public opinion in general find themselves at present helpless and lacking in the necessary minimum of information to face up to this new disease,

Considering that there is a great deal to be done at the educational level and certainly in schools with a view to implementing emergency programmes of preventive information, and that, in particular, such information should focus upon secondary-school teachers and pupils and on the parents of those pupils,

Considering that Unesco has an essential role to play in this respect, in close collaboration with WHO and other agencies, organizations and bodies in the United Nations system,

Recommends the Director-General of Unesco to examine the possibility of preparing as a matter of urgency, and in co-ordination with other competent bodies in the United Nations system, a draft emergency programme of education and information in schools for AIDS prevention, and to submit such proposals as he deems appropriate to the next session of the General Conference of Unesco;

Expresses the wish that this programme may become operational in all Member States as soon as possible and that it may make possible the rapid establishment of co-operation among Member States that already have experience in this matter;

Appeals urgently to financing agencies and bodies and to foundations to make available to Unesco the resources needed to implement this important educational aspect of the fight against AIDS.